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Economic statistics: Round Table on Business Survey Frames

Report of the Round Table on Business Survey Frames

Note by the Secretary-General

In accordance with a request of the Statistical Commission at its thirty-second session,** the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit the report of the Round Table on Business Survey Frames. The Commission may wish to review the work programme of the Round Table.

* E/CN.3/2002/1.

** See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 4* (E/2001/24), chap. I, sect. A.

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Report of the Round Table on Business Survey Frames

Purpose

To provide a forum for the exchange of views and experiences and the conduct of joint experiments bearing on the development, maintenance and use of sampling frames for business surveys (business registers). The Round Table is an informal body and participation is on a voluntary basis. Participants, however, are required to contribute to the programme of the meeting. The mandate of the Round Table does not emanate from a formal body, but the Round Table could, on the basis of its discussions and/or experiments, make a recommendation to a formal body (e.g., the Statistical Commission) concerning, for example, the consideration/adoption of certain practices or standards.

Year organized

1986 in Ottawa.

Participating statistical agencies (2001) meeting)

Canada, Czech Republic, China, Denmark, Statistical Office of the European Communities, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, South Africa, Sweden, Turkey, United States.

Meetings (held annually)

First meeting: Ottawa, May 1986.

Most recent meeting: Washington, D.C., 21-26 October 2001.

Topics discusses at the Washington, D.C., meeting

1. Round Table mission and objectives.
2. Profiles of registers.
3. Quality measure guidelines.
4. Geo-coding of business registers.
5. Effective use of tax and administrative data.
6. Continuity and business demography.
7. Managing relationships with administrative agencies.

Products

Technical papers produced and discussed at the first 14 meetings are available on a CD-ROM; the host agency updates an Internet site with the most recent documentation after each meeting.

Planned activities

Next meetings: Lisbon, October 2002; and Rome, October 2003.

Expected future products (dates)

The reports and papers from the Washington, D.C., meeting will be available on the Internet at: www.nass.usda.gov/roundtable.

Point of contact

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Contact for information on the meeting to be held in Lisbon in October 2002

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